

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated July 26, 2004 please amend the above-identified application as follows:

1. (original) A stabilizer pad assembly for use with a stabilizer arm of heavy equipment, the stabilizer pad assembly comprising:

a pair of laterally spaced apart plate members, the pair of plate members being pivotally attached at a proximal end thereof to the stabilizer arm so that the plate members can rotate relative thereto;

at least one resilient pad formed with at least one passage extending transversely therethrough between opposite sides of said resilient pad, and having opposite work surfaces;

at least one support member extending through said pad passage, integral with said resilient pad and constructed and arranged to be supported from a distal end of said plate members; and

at least one retaining member disposed between said plate members and for securing the resilient pad to the plate members, said retaining member removable to permit said resilient pad to be moved between said opposite work surfaces and to be re-engagable so as to permit selective positioning of either of said opposite work surfaces for use as a surface for ground engagement.

2. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 1 including means disposed at at least one end of said support member for inhibiting lateral movement of said support member relative to said resilient pad.

3. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein the means for inhibiting comprises at least one plate piece at the side of said pad and secured with said retaining member.

4. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein the means for inhibiting comprises a blocking wall defined in at least one of said plate members.

5. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein the means for inhibiting comprises a horizontal slot at the distal end of said plate members, said support member comprising a plurality of support rods that are adapted to ride into said slot.

6. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein the means for inhibiting comprises a stepped end of said support member.

7. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein the means for inhibiting comprises a stepped slot in said plate member.

8. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein the means for inhibiting comprises a side plate outside of said plate member for blocking lateral movement of said support member.

9. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 8 including a pair of side plates, one on either side of the resilient pad, and wherein there are plural support members spaced along the plate members.

10. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 9 wherein the support members comprise support rods that extend at both ends beyond the resilient pad.

11. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 1 comprising at least a pair of retaining members each including a retaining pin secured between the plate members.

12. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 11 wherein each plate member has a distal slot for receiving said support member.

13. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said support member is constructed with a roughened outer surface so as to secure the support member in place.

14. (Original) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 13 wherein the support member is formed of a reinforcing rod.

Please cancel the non-elected claims 15-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

15. (Canceled) A latch device for use with a stabilizer pad attached to a stabilizer arm of a vehicle and for preventing self-flipping of the stabilizer pad relative to the stabilizer arm, said latch device comprising:

- a latch constructed and arranged to have a pivot that enables limited rotation between engaged and disengaged positions thereof;

- a support for the latch from either the stabilizer arm or the stabilizer pad;

- said stabilizer pad having one and other positions relating to opposed work surfaces;

- said latch being interengaged with one of said pad and arm to inhibit rotation of said stabilizer pad when said stabilizer pad is in said one position so as to inhibit self-flipping thereof;

- said latch being manually operable to disengage said latch when moving said stabilizer pad to its other position.

16. (Canceled) A latch device as set forth in claim 15 wherein said latch is attached to the stabilizer arm and the stabilizer pad includes a weldment that the latch engages with.

17. (Canceled) A latch device as set forth in claim 16 wherein the latch is constructed of an elastomeric material and has opposite positions limited by a stop.

18. (Canceled) A latch device as set forth in claim 17 wherein the stop engages the end of the support to limit the position of the latch.

19. (Canceled) A latch device as set forth in claim 15 wherein the support comprises a pair of support plates attached by bolts to the stabilizer arm.

20. (Canceled) A latch device as set forth in claim 15 wherein said latch is supported from the stabilizer arm by a pivot member.

21. (New) A stabilizer pad assembly adapted for mounting from a metal weldment and comprising:

a resilient pad having opposite ground engageable surfaces, one of which is adapted to be in a downwardly facing orientation for ground engagement;

means integral with and extending from said resilient pad, forming with said resilient pad a unitary pad assembly, and adapted for releasable engagement with said metal weldment; and

at least one elongated securing member that is releasably connectable between said resilient pad and said metal weldment for holding said resilient pad to said metal weldment.

22. (New) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 21 further including at least one clamping bar positioned between said resilient pad and said weldment for retaining at least one side of said resilient pad.

23. (New) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 21 wherein said means integral with said resilient pad includes support posts that extend from

opposed sides of said resilient pad for releasable engagement with slots in respective plate members that comprise said metal weldment.

24. (New) A stabilizer pad assembly for use with a stabilizer arm, the stabilizer pad assembly comprising:

a pair of laterally spaced apart plate members each having proximal and distal ends, the pair of plate members forming a metal weldment and being pivotally attached to a stabilizer arm by a pin extending laterally between facing surfaces of respective plate members at said proximal ends thereof;

at least one resilient pad having opposed work surfaces and opposed support surfaces that are substantially transverse to said work surfaces

said at least one resilient pad adapted for support from the distal ends of said plate members; and

means integral with and extending from said resilient pad, forming with said resilient pad a unitary pad assembly;

said means integral adapted for releasable engagement with said metal weldment;

whereby said resilient pad is adapted to be moved between said opposed working surfaces and to be re-engagable between said plate members so as to permit selective positioning of either of said opposed working surfaces for use as a surface for ground engagement.

25. (New) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 24 wherein said plate members have, at said distal ends thereof, at least one receiving slot and a retaining member that is releasably connectable between said resilient pad and said metal weldment for holding said resilient pad to said metal weldment.

26. (New) A stabilizer pad assembly as set forth in claim 25 wherein said means integral with said resilient pad includes support posts that extend from